

REGULAR MEETING – MANSFIELD TOWN COUNCIL
Monday, January 26, 2015 ADJOURNED to Thursday, January 29, 2015

Mayor Elizabeth Paterson called the regular meeting of the Mansfield Town Council to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Buchanan Center Auditorium.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Kegler, Kochenburger, Marcellino, Moran, Paterson, Raymond, Ryan, Shapiro (7:30 p.m.)

Excused: Wassmundt

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Ryan moved and Ms. Moran seconded to approve the minutes of the January 12, 2015 meeting. Ms. Raymond requested the minutes reflect that the Four Corners Advisory Committee voted to recommend the extension of the comment period for the CWC/UCONN Diversion Permit Application. The motion, as amended, passed unanimously.

III. OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COUNCIL

Meg Reich, Bassetts Bridge Road and President of the Willimantic River Alliance, commented on the Aquatic Invasive Species Control Grant for Eagleville Lake noting that the Alliance has been working with localities to determine the most effective way to combat the infestation of fanwort. The Alliance is in support of the grant. (Statement of support attached)

Ric Hossack, Middle Turnpike, responded to the letters in support of the daycare centers and urged the Council not to spend taxpayer funds to replace the funds UConn will no longer be providing.

Arthur Smith, Mulberry Road, commented on the MERS presentation before the Personnel Committee outlining possible changes to the pension options noting that costs need to be looked at. Mr. Smith stated that he will be filing a Freedom of Information request with the Town asking for information regarding the communications received from UConn concerning recent blasting activity and a reported gas leak.

IV. REPORT OF THE TOWN MANAGER

Town Manager Matt Hart highlighted items in his Town Manager's Report.

Ms. Raymond questioned why she was prohibited from taking a left turn on to Rte. 195 at 5:30 am on Thursday, January 29, 2015, especially since cars on Rte. 195 were being permitted to continue through the intersection.

The Town Manager will pass on Ms. Raymond's concerns to the Director of Public Works.

Mr. Shapiro joined the meeting.

Ms. Moran called the snow clearing efforts in the Storrs Center area impressive.

V. REPORTS AND COMMENTS OF COUNCIL MEMBERS

January 29, 2015

Ms. Raymond noted that the Towns of Vernon, Ashford, and Mansfield submitted a sufficient number of signatures to require a public hearing for the CWC/UCONN Diversion Permit Application.

Ms. Moran attended two of the Mansfield Tomorrow Presentations and reported that Director of Planning and Development Linda Painter and Natural Resources and Sustainability Coordinator Jennifer Kaufman did a spectacular job presenting the information. Ms. Moran remarked that there are areas of the Plan which are within the Town Council's jurisdiction and suggested the Council revisit whether or not they should hold a public hearing.

Mayor Paterson commended the staff on their snow removal efforts.

Ms. Raymond also noted the roads were well cleared.

VI. OLD BUSINESS

1. Storrs Center Update

The bids for the light pylons and stage pavilion have been reviewed and a contractor selected.

2. Community/Campus Relations, UCONN Master Plan

Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded, effective January 29, 2015, to authorize the Mayor to co-endorse the attached comments to the University of Connecticut regarding the draft UConn Campus Master Plan.

The Town Manager reviewed the process undertaken which included referring the Plan to all relevant committees and asking for their input.

Director of Planning and Development Linda Painter reviewed the comments offered by the advisory committees commenting that the draft letter covers the positive elements as well as identified issues.

Ms. Raymond offered the following amendments:

- Include language stating that the Council's comments predate the receipt of the Next Gen Impact Analysis which is currently underway.
- Add information and/or examples of the "outlying parcels" referred to in the *Conservation of Open Space* section.
- Add a more emphatic statement with regards to the scenic value of the Horsebarn Hill vista in the *Residence Hall Locations* section.

Ms. Moran and Mr. Shapiro accepted the suggested additions as friendly amendments to the original motion as well as a suggestion by Ms. Moran that the comments also predate CROG's Transportation Study. A suggestion by Mr. Kochenburger to add a note to the *Multipurpose/Hockey Arena* section indicating that committee objections to the Rte. 195/South Eagleville location were unanimous was also accepted as a friendly amendment.

The motion to approve as amended passed unanimously.

Members thanked the committee members for their input.

VII. NEW BUSINESS

3. Aquatic Invasive Species Control Grant for Eagleville Lake

Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Ryan seconded, effective January 29, 2015, to authorize staff to proceed with the proposed aquatics invasives control program for Eagleville

Lake and to complete the steps necessary to receive the Aquatic Invasive Species Control Grant from CT DEEP

Natural Resources and Sustainability Coordinator Jennifer Kaufman stated that the project will continue for at least 3 years, not all of which will necessarily include the application of herbicides, and that the project will be a long term management issue. Council members invited Willimantic River Alliance President Meg Reich to the table. Ms. Reich described how the herbicide would work in the Eagleville Lake, which is actually a river, as opposed to a lake or a pond and discussed that the danger to humans would be limited to the person applying the herbicide. The motion passed unanimously.

4. CT Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve

Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Ryan seconded, effective January 29, 2015, to authorize the Town Manager to issue the attached Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve Statement (ESGR) Statement of Support.

Motion passed unanimously.

VIII. REPORTS OF COUNCIL COMMITTEES

Chair of the Finance Committee Bill Ryan announced the Committee will be meeting on February 2, 2015 at 6:00 pm to hear and discuss Blum Shapiro's report on financial controls. All members are invited.

Chair of the Personnel Committee Toni Moran reported the Committee met and received draft Code of Ethics language regarding teacher gifts. This language has been forwarded to the Mansfield Board of Education and the Ethics Board for comments. The Committee also heard a report from the Town Manager on CCM's lobbying efforts for MERS reform.

Chair of the Committee on Committees Peter Kochenburger reported the Committee has discussed a plan to appoint two Town Council ex-officio/liaison members to the Economic Development Commission.

Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded to add the appointment of two Town Council members as ex-officio/liaison members to the Economic Development Commission to the agenda.

The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Moran moved and Mr. Shapiro seconded to create the position of ex-officio/liaison members of the Economic Development Commission to be comprised of two Town Council members.

The motion passed unanimously and Councilors Kegler and Marcellino agreed to serve.

IX. DEPARTMENTAL AND COMMITTEE REQUESTS

No comments offered.

X. PETITIONS, REQUESTS AND COMMUNICATIONS

5. Letters re: Early Childhood Education Centers

6. T. Luciano (12/10/14)

7. A. Smith (01/12/15)
8. A. Smith (01/22/15)
9. Mansfield Board of Education – Report on the Review of the Superintendent’s Mileage Reimbursement Requests
10. E. Paterson re: Draft Diversion Permit No. DIV-201404187
11. P. Schneider re: Funding for Mansfield Advocates for Children
12. Committee on Committees recommendations
13. State of Connecticut Department of Agriculture re: Statement of Dog License Survey

XI. FUTURE AGENDAS
No suggestions offered.

XII. ADJOURNMENT
Mr. Shapiro moved and Ms. Raymond seconded to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 p.m.
Motion passed unanimously.

Elizabeth C. Paterson, Mayor

Mary Stanton, Town Clerk